were also passed direct by His Highness the Maha Raja, *viz.*, Regulation III of 1093 to amend the Travancore Land Customs Regulation and Regulation IV of 1093 to amend the Travancore Sea Customs Regulation. Since the close of the year, five more Regulations have been passed, of which the most important are Regulation I of 1094 to amend the law relating to ports and port charges, Regulation III of 1094 *re* Chitties in Travancore, and Regulation IV of 1094 to amend the Penal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure. A Bill to prevent juvenile smoking has been directed to be introduced into the Council. The final report of the Ezhava Law Committee has been received since the close of 1093 and it will be taken up for consideration after the expiry of the period fixed for the communities affected to make their representations.

15. Vacancy in the Council.—A vacancy will soon arise in the Council, consequent on the expiry of the term of Mr. K. Parameswaran Pillai, who had been returned by the Members of the Quilon Division. His Highness the Maha Raja has been pleased to command that the Members of that Division now meet under the presidency of the Division Peishkar, Quilon, and elect a representative. The name of the representative elected by them will be duly submitted to His Highness the Maha Raja for consideration.

16. Reform of the Council.—The question of amending the Legislative Council Regulation, V of 1073, with a view to increase the scope and usefulness of the Council has been under the consideration of Government for some time. It is now more than twenty-one years since the existing enactment on the subject was passed, and the comparatively high level of educational progress attained in the country during the interval warrants the introduction of a substantial instalment of reform, calculated to satisfy the growing desire of the people to share in the work of administration in a larger measure than hitherto. An amending Bill, enlarging the Council and conferring enhanced powers on the non-official members, is now under consideration.

17. Police.—The total number of cognizable cases taken up by the Police including arrears, which had fallen from 3,631 to 3,483 in 1092, fell further to 3,376 in 1093. The reduction in crime during the latter year, though insignificant, is a matter for gratification in a period of economic strain. The relations between the Police and the Magistracy were harmonious. Complaints of abuse of power by Police officers showed an appreciable decline, and a general tendency towards co-operation between the Police and the public, which is an unmistakable indication of improvement in Police efficiency, was in evidence. The provisions of the Hackney Carriage Regulation, VI of 1089, which was already in force in Trivandrum, were extended to the towns of Quilon and Alleppey. Six probationary Sub-Inspectors were additionally entertained in the Department. Since the close of 1093, the pay of the constabulary has been revised, so as to secure accelerated promotion, and an additional grade of constables on Rs. 10 has also been sanctioned.

18. Central Prison.—The health of the prisoners in the Central Prison has been the best on record since 1086. The percentage of sick to strength fell from 1·4 to 1·07 and the daily average of sick from 8·9 to 5·9. There were only 12 deaths. The use of pure milk from the dairy farm opened during the year partly accounts for the improvement attained in this direction. The Committee appointed for the revision of the Jail Rules have submitted their recommendations, closely following the latest rules on the subject in force in the Madras Presidency and introducing only such changes as local conditions require. The revised rules have been passed by Government with certain modifications and will be soon published. The appointment of non-official visitors has been provided for in the new rules.

19. Civil Courts.—The number of original civil suits instituted during 1093 was 72,485, showing a slight decrease of 1,163 as compared with that of the previous year. This reduction, however, is perhaps temporary. The steady rise in the volume of original litigation since 1084, when it numbered only 47,800 suits, is a matter of

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